Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for transmitting short voice message service (SVMS) messages to an intended recipient through a radio communication network, said system comprising:

a first communication station, comprising:

a packet-data generator for converting an SVMS message into a packet-data format for transmission, the SVMS message being defined as a message including packetized voice data configured to be deliverable to a plurality of recipients as a result of a single transmission from the first communication station; and

a storage device for electronically storing the SVMS message until it can be transmitted to an SVMS-MSC; and

an SVMS-MSC for receiving the packetized SVMS message and storing it until it can be transmitted to the intended recipient, the SVMS-MSC being configured to determine whether the intended recipient is capable of receiving the SVMS message prior to transmission of the SVMS message.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a microphone in the first communication station for receiving an audio input, converting it into electronic signals, and providing the electronic signals to the packet-data generator.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a text to speech (TTS) converter in communication with the first communication station for converting a text file into digital audio form and providing the digital audio signal to the packet-data generator.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the intended recipient is a mobile telephone, and said system further comprises a home location register (HLR) for storing information regarding the mobile telephone.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4, wherein the SVMS-MSC ~~server~~ queries the HLR to determine if the mobile telephone is SVMS capable.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein the SVMS-MSC ~~server~~, upon receiving a response from the HLR indicating that the mobile telephone is not SVMS capable, delivers the SVMS message by an alternate delivery method.

7. (Original) The system of claim 5, further comprising a voice-mail server in communication with the SVMS-MSC and accessible to the subscriber, and wherein the alternate delivery method includes storing the SVMS message as a voice-mail message on the voice-mail server.

8. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the SVMS-MSC queries the HLR to determine the location of the mobile telephone.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the first communication station is connectable to the Internet such that the SVMS message may be transmitted to the SVMS-MSC through the Internet.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of enabling the transmission of an SVMS message from an originating station to a target station through a wireless telecommunication network, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving an SVMS message in packet-data format in an SVMS server, the SVMS message being defined as a message including packetized voice data configured to be deliverable to a plurality of recipients as a result of a single transmission from the originating station;

storing the SVMS message in a data storage device in communication with the SVMS server;

determining a transmission path to the target station for delivering the SVMS message;

determining whether the target station is capable of receiving the SVMS message; and

~~transmitting~~ directing transmission of the SVMS message in response to a determination that the target station is capable of receiving the SVMS message.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising ~~the step of~~ verifying delivery of the SVMS message to the target station.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising ~~the step of~~ sending a delivery confirmation notice to the originating station, upon verifying delivery.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10[[13]], wherein ~~the step of transmitting~~ directing transmission of the SVMS message comprises transmitting the SVMS message to a voice-mail server for storage.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising ~~the step of~~ sending to the target station a notification that the SVMS message was transmitted to a voice-mail server.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the SVMS message is received from an SVMS portal.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the SVMS portal is a World Wide Web site accessible by subscribers to direct that an SVMS message be generated upon the occurrence of a certain event.

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for transmitting short voice message service (SVMS) messages from an originating station to a target station through a wireless telecommunication network, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving an SVMS message in packet-data format at an SVMS server, the SVMS message being defined as a message including packetized voice data configured to be deliverable to a plurality of recipients as a result of a single transmission from the originating station;

means for storing the SVMS message in a data storage device in communication with the SVMS server;

means for determining a transmission path to the target station for delivering the SVMS message;

means for determining whether the target station is capable of receiving the SVMS message; and

means for ~~transmitting~~ directing transmission of the SVMS message in response to a determination that the target station is capable of receiving the SVMS message.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for transmitting short voice message service (SVMS) messages from an originating station to a target station through a wireless telecommunication network, said apparatus comprising:

a packet-data generator for converting an SVMS message into a packet-data format for transmission, the SVMS message being defined as a message including packetized voice data configured to be deliverable to a plurality of recipients as a result of a single transmission from the originating station; and

a storage device for electronically storing the SVMS message prior to transmission to an short voice message service mobile switching center (SVMS-MSC),

wherein the SVMS message is deliverable to the target station in response to a determination that the target station is capable of receiving the SVMS message.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for receiving short voice message service (SVMS) messages from an originating station through a wireless telecommunication network, said apparatus comprising:

receive circuitry configured to receive an SVMS message in a packet-data format, the SVMS message being defined as a message including packetized voice data configured to be deliverable to a plurality of recipients as a result of a single transmission from the originating station;

a storage device for electronically storing at least a portion of the SVMS message prior to presenting the SVMS message; and

packet disassembly circuitry configured to receive the SVMS message in the packet-data format and to process the SVMS message into a digital data format,

wherein the apparatus is configured to receive the SVMS message in response to a determination that the apparatus is capable of receiving the SVMS message.